

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 04996 041539Z
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FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8911

S E C R E T KUWAIT 4996

STADIS//////////

FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PGEN, KU
SUBJECT: GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE AMBASSADOR

REF: STATE 208695

1. I FIND THAT CODIFICATION OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES CONTAINED IN REFTEL EXTREMELY USEFUL. IN THE PAST I HAVE HAD REASON TO LIST OBJECTIVES AND GOALS FOR THIS EMBASSY (A) IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT ALL EMBASSY OFFICERS WERE AWARE OF WHAT WE WERE TRYING TO ACCOMPLISH IN KUWAIT, (B) FOR THE EDIFICATION OF INSPECTORS AND (C) FOR INCLUSION IN THE PARM-TYPE EXERCISES. I AM PLEASED TO SEE THAT THOSE OBJECTIVES AS WELL AS WHAT WE DO ALMOST AUTOMATICALLY HERE IN THE COURSE OF OUR WORK ARE REFLECTED IN THE LIST PROVIDED REFTEL. I OFFICER BELOW A FEW COMMENTS ABOUT CERTAIN OF THESE OBJECTIVES WHICH I SUGGEST MIGHT BE REPHRASED OR DROPPED. (NOTE THAT IT WOULD HAVE BEEN EASIER TO KEY THESE COMMENTS TO A LIST WHICH WAS BETTER NUMBERED FOR EASY REFERENCE.)

2. I SUGGEST THAT THE FOURTH OBJECTIVE UNDER I BE REQHRASED AS FOLLOWS: "ENCOURAGE KUWAITIS TO LOOK TO THEIR LARGER ARAB NEIGHBORS (SAUDI ARABI, SYRIA,

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JORDAN AND EVEN EGYPT) AND IRAN AS SECURITY GUARANTORS RATHER THAN LOOKING TOWARD THE US (OR THE UK) FOR THIS PURPOSE." WHILE GOK WOULD CERTAINLY LOOK FOR SECURITY SUPPORT FROM IRAN (ESPECIALLY AGAINST IRAQ) AND SAUDI ARABIA, KUWAITIS ARE SUFFICIENTLY REALISTIC TO RECOGNIZE SAUDI ARABIAN MILITARY LIMITATIONS AT THIS STAGE. THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER HAS CONFIRMED TO ME ON MORE THAN

ONE OCCASION THAT KUWAIT WOULD ALSO APPEAL TO EGYPT, SYRIA AND JORDAN IN CASE ITS SECURITY WERE THREATENED. IN EXTREMIS, HOWEVER, HE SAID KUWAIT WOULD LOOK FOR INTERVENTION OF UN AND EVENTUALLY SUPPORT FROM US AND UK.

3. I SUGGEST THAT FIFTH OBJECTIVE UNDER I BE DROPPED SINCE KUWAITI LEADERSHIP IN GENERAL IS MUCH BETTER INFORMED ON PENINSULA AND GULF POLITICAL AND SECURITY AFFAIRS THAN THIS EMBASSY. INDEED, WE SEEK TO REPORT INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM GOK ON WHAT IT IS DOING AND WHAT IS GOING ON IN THE GULF AREA, PARTICULARLY IN THE CONTECT OF ANY REGIONAL ENDEAVORS.

4. THIRD OBJECTIVE UNDER II SHOULD BE REPHRASED AS FOLLOWS: "SEEK TO PROMOTE COOPERATION BETWEEN SUCH ORGANIZATIONS AS THE KUWAIT/ARAB FUNDS AND AID IN UTILIZING LATTER'S REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE RESOURCES TO FURTHER PROGRAMS OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO POORER DEVELOPING NATIONS."

5. I SUGGEST THE ELIMINATION OF THE FIFTH OBJECT UNDER II. PREVIOUS OFFERS BY THIS EMBASSY TO MAKE AVAILABLE RESOURCES OF AID'S REMIBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS HAVE BEEN REJECTED HERE. KUWAITIS FEEL THAT THEY ARE SUFFICEINTLY SOPHISTICATED AND EXPERIENCED TO KNOW WHERE AND HOW TO OBTAIN TECHNICAL
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ASSISTANCE WHEN THEY NEED IT. ON THE ONE OCCASION WHEN GOK SOUGHT SUCH ASSISTANCE FROM USG THROUGH THIS EMBASSY TO UNDERTAKE A GOVERNMENTAL REORGANIZATION PROGRAM, IT QUICKLY WITHDREW THIS INTITATIVE BECAUSE OF SENSITIVITY TO DEALING PUBLICLY WITH THE USG, AND PARTICULARLY WITH AID, IN THIS CONNECTION. GOK INSTEAD PREFERRED TO PURSUE ITS DESIRE FOR SUCH ASSISTANCE THROUGH THE KUWAIT EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON WHICH DEALT DIRECTLY WITH THE AID REMIBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OFFICER THERE. GOK IS WARE OF THE AVAILABILITY OF THESE RESOURCES AND WILL APPLY TO DRAW UPON THEM WHEN NECESSARY, BUT PUBLICITY OF SUCH ACTIVITY IS PRECISELY WHAT GOK WISHES TO AVOID.

6. WITH RESPECT TO LAST OBJECTIVE UNDER IV, EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED NUMBER OF SUGGESTIONS FROM DEPARTMENT FOR REPORTING ON EMERGING POLITICAL INFLUENCE OF KUWAIT ARMED FORCES(KAF). UP TO THE PRESENT TIME THERE HAS BEEN NO RPT NO INDICATION OF ANY DEVELOPMENT ALONG THESE LINES IN THE KAF. EMBASSY WILL CERTAINLY BE VIGILANT AND WATCH FOR ANY EMERGING INFLUENCE WHEN IT "EMERGES." FOR THE TIME BEING, KAF REMAINS COMPLETELY UNDER CIVILAIN

CONTROL OF THE SABAH FAMILY IN THE PERSON OF SHAIKH
SA'AD AL-ABDULLAH, DEFENSE AND INTERIOR MINSTER, WHO
MAINTAINS TIGHT PERSONAL CONTROL OVER ALL MILITARY
ACTIVITIES IN KUWAIT. THEREFORE, I DO NOT BELIEVE
THAT THIS POINT MERITS LISTING AS AN OBJECTIVE AT THIS TIME.
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